



**DODGE**

***SPEEDKING***  
*World Record Holder*  
***Russ Wicks***

***Media Guide***

OCTOBER 8-10, 2007

**Bonneville Salt Flats  
World's Fastest Speedway  
Tooele County, UT**

*MediaGuideMediaGuideMedia*

**Autodesk**

# **SPEEDKING**

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## *Media Alert*

### **“Speedking” Russ Wicks Attempts to Break World Speed Record at Bonneville Speedway in the Autodesk-Sponsored Dodge Charger**

[Autodesk and Dodge Team Up to Sponsor Wicks in his World Speed Record Attempt](#)

**SAN RAFAEL, Calif., October 2, 2007**

- WHAT: New World Speed Record**  
Russ Wicks, the “Speedking” and the only living person to hold world speed records of over 200 mph on both land and water, attempts to break the stock car world speed record of 222 mph, set last year. Wicks and his American Challenge team will attempt to set a new world speed record over a three-day period, October 8 – 10.
- WHERE: Bonneville Speedway, Bonneville, Utah**  
Bonneville Speedway is a flat stretch of terrain in the Bonneville Salt Flats located in northwestern Utah. Bonneville Salt Flats has been used as a speed-testing ground for nearly a century.
- WHEN: October 8 – 10, 2007**  
**Activity starts at sunrise on Monday, October 8, 2007.**
- DETAILS:** Wicks and his American Challenge team will be attempting to set the record with a Dodge Charger stock car race vehicle with sponsorship from Dodge and Autodesk, Inc.

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Wicks' vehicle, the Autodesk-Sponsored Dodge Charger, was built to compete on the Talladega high-speed oval. The Dodge Motorsports Engineering Group collaborated with Wicks' American Challenge team to enhance the speed and stability of the vehicle. Autodesk AliasStudio software—used for design and surfacing—and Autodesk Inventor software, a 3D Digital Prototyping tool that optimizes the concept-to-manufacturing process, played an integral role in the performance modifications.

**CONTACT:** To learn more about how Autodesk technology is helping Wicks in his latest adventure, or to schedule an interview with Wicks, please contact: Rosemary Mori: [rosemary.mori@autodesk.com](mailto:rosemary.mori@autodesk.com), 415.547.2474 or cell (on-site) 415.217.9766 or Stephanie Peters: [stephanie.peters@edelman.com](mailto:stephanie.peters@edelman.com), 312.233.1266

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## *History of the World's Fastest Stock Car*

A Dodge vehicle held the “flying mile” Stock Car speed record for nearly 35 years with the most aerodynamically advanced Stock Car ever built – the 1970 Dodge Charger Daytona.

Bobby Isaac set the benchmark of 216 miles per hour in September 1971 in a NASCAR Grand National spec Charger on the Bonneville Salt Flats near Wendover, Utah.

In 2006 Russ Wicks eclipsed Isaacs' record at Bonneville with an average speed of over 222 miles per hour.

In 2007 Wicks plans to repeat Bobby Isaac's feat of setting a new benchmark behind the wheel of a current NASCAR spec 2007 Dodge Charger painted to resemble the 1971 record setting vehicle.



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## *Driver – Russ Wicks*

**Overview:** Russ Wicks is the only living person to hold world speed records over 200 MPH on land and water. Russ set the World Water Speed Record for Propeller-driven boats at 205 mph in the Miss Freei Unlimited Hydroplane. On July 3, 2006 Wicks broke the world speed record for stock cars averaging 222 mph through the measured mile. For his accomplishments he has been featured on ESPN, the National Geographic Channel, included in the Guinness World Records Book, and also appeared on the cover of WIRED Magazine.

**Motocross:** Russ has over 25 years of experience in the racing world, including competition in over 700 races. At the age of ten, Wicks started racing Motocross and became a fully sponsored professional at the age of 15. He raced 125cc National Motorcross and 250cc Stadium Supercross, and was chosen as a factory support rider for team Honda.

**Formula Cars:** Wicks headed to France for his first taste of auto racing, where he was one of the first Americans to attend the famous Winfield Racing School and compete in the Pilote Elf Championship in turbocharged Formula Renaults at Circuit Paul Ricard. Wicks then ran Formula 2000 in Canada and Formula Mazda in the United States, before driving for the Dave White Motorsports Team in Formula Super Vee. Niki Lauda, Kevin Cogan, Michael Andretti and Danny Sullivan all were former drivers for White.

**Indy Cars:** During 1996, Wicks participated in several Indy Car test programs including driving for the Euromotorsport Team. Russ made history in 1997 when Tony George (owner of the Indy Motor Speedway) re-opened the Speedway, after it had been closed for the month in preparation for the 500, to allow Russ to test for the PDM Indy Racing League Team. During 2003, Wicks tested the Sam Schmidt Motorsports Infiniti Pro Series car at the California Speedway.



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**Unlimited Hydroplanes:** Only two weeks after testing an Unlimited Hydroplane for the first time, Russ broke the World Water Speed Record for propeller-driven boats. Wicks averaged 205.494 mph over the measured mile, while hitting a top speed of over 220 mph. During 2000, Russ also tested the Miss Freei at the Evansville, Tri-Cities, and Seafair events. Wicks ultimately qualified as an Unlimited driver while testing the legendary Miss Budweiser Unlimited Hydroplane in San Diego.

**NHRA Drag Racing:** During September 2003, Wicks made his debut on the quarter-mile while attending Frank Hawley's Drag Racing School, and has received his NHRA Competition Driver's License for both Super Comp and Top Alcohol Dragster. With the legendary Frank Hawley as coach, Wicks made two of the most consistent 225+ mph passes in history driving the Top Alcohol Dragster.

**NASCAR Stock Car:** On July 3, 2006 Wicks set a new World Stock Car Speed Record in a NASCAR-spec Ford Taurus of 222.623 mph at the Bonneville Salt Flats in Utah. The previous milestone of 216.946 mph was set nearly 35 years ago by Bobby Isaac. Russ also drove the Autodesk Stock Car in a non-spec NASCAR configuration and made a 237 mph one-way pass through the measured mile.

**Business World:** Russ has extensive experience in the business world specializing in strategic partnerships. He is very active in the digital community and is an accomplished spokesperson and public speaker, who frequently receives invitations to speak at various industry events throughout the United States.

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## *Team – American Challenge*

American Challenge is a consortium of business, engineering and motorsports professions focused on breaking important world land and water speed records. Team founder, Russ Wicks, is one of few people to have traveled over 220 miles per hour on both land and water.

Members of the American Challenge Technology Team come from the nation's premier high-technology laboratories. They include experts from the fields of Fluid Dynamics, Structures, Stability and Control, Propulsion, Simulation, Manufacturing and Safety. This combined expertise is unsurpassed anywhere in the world.

To quickly and effectively enhance the design, speed and reliability of these vehicles the American Challenge team has chosen Autodesk Inventor 11 software, the world's most popular 3D mechanical design application. Used in conjunction with Autodesk AliasStudio a seamless integration of data between disciplines such as aerodynamic shape and structural integrity is achieved. This fully digital collaborative environment insures all data collected is always accurate, current and accessible.



## Dodge Charger

Exterior Body		Engine	
Length	135"	Manufacturer	Dodge Charger
Width	60"	Type	V-8
Height	51"	Displacement	358 cu/in
Wheelbase	110" center to center	Compression	9.5:1
Track Width	60" center to center	Carburetion	830 cfm 4-barrel Holley
Wheel Size	9.5" x 15"	Horsepower	800+ HP @ 8,500 rpm
Ground Clearance	4.0"	Torque	490 ft*lbs. @ 8,000 rpm
Air Dam	5.0"	Transmission	4-speed manual
Rear Spoiler	5.0"	*Fuel System	22 gallons
Weight	3,600 pounds including driver	*Oil system	16 quarts
Weight Distribution	52% front 48% rear	*Cooling System	14 quarts

### BODY PARTS

- HOOD: standard production hood stamped by manufacturer.
- ROOF: steel, and stock appearing.
- ROOF FLAPS: roof flaps are NASCAR-approved and in approved location.
- DECK: same deck lid as a production model.
- WINDSHIELD: all windshields are made of 1/4 inch thick, minimum Lexan.
- REAR GLASS: all rear glass is made of 3/16 inch thick, minimum Lexan.
- NOSE: factory stock. For each type of car, all are supplied from a single source.


### CHASSIS

- Frame -- Rectangular tube
- Braces and Cage -- Round tube
- Front Suspension -- Independent double-A arm
- Rear Suspension -- Solid axles, track arms, Panhard rod
- Steering -- Power heavy-duty worm and pinion
- Brakes -- Four-wheel disc
- Wheels -- 9.5 x 15 inches
- Tires -- Goodyear Eagle speedway radials, 10 x 15 inches



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## Partners

 **DODGE** The Dodge brand has a U.S. market share of 7 percent, Dodge is the Chrysler Group's best-selling brand and the fifth largest nameplate in the U.S. automotive market. In 2006, Dodge sold more than 1.3 million vehicles in the global market. Dodge continues to lead the minivan market with a 20 percent market share in the United States. In the highly competitive truck market, Dodge has a 16 percent market share. Dodge is also entering key European volume segments with Nitro and Caliber.

The introduction of the new 2008 Dodge Viper SRT10 marks a milestone in the Dodge brand's history with its boldest lineup of passenger cars including the all-new 2008 Avenger and Caliber, as well as the refreshed Dodge Charger and Magnum. This onslaught of product gives the brand a completely new and refreshed passenger car lineup. In 2008, Dodge will introduce the all-new modern muscle car, the Dodge Challenger.

**Autodesk**® Autodesk, Inc. is the world leader in 2D and 3D design software for the manufacturing, building and construction, and media and entertainment markets. Since its introduction of AutoCAD software in 1982, Autodesk has developed the broadest portfolio of state-of-the-art digital prototyping solutions to help customers experience their ideas before they are real. Fortune 1000 companies rely on Autodesk for the tools to visualize, simulate and analyze real-world performance early in the design process to save time and money, enhance quality and foster innovation. For additional information about Autodesk, visit [www.autodesk.com](http://www.autodesk.com).

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## *Additional Partners*

Jegs Automotive, Inc., has been a leader in the high performance aftermarket industry for years. The company motto is "Give the customer what they want, when they want it at the price that they want to pay and back it with the best customer service."



Mail order sales represent the largest portion of their business. A 200+ page color catalog is sent out weekly to over 10-million addresses across the world. Customers can place orders via a toll-free number (1-800-345-4545) or through the company's rapidly growing website (jegs.com).

In addition, the company has three retail locations in Columbus, Ohio, as well as a chassis division. The chassis division fabricates high performance components from the company's original location, near downtown Columbus.

WD-40 Company is a global consumer products company with brands that deliver above expectation performance at extremely good value to end users who buy in a variety of trade channels. Their products are found under the sink, in the garage and in the toolboxes of the world.



WD-40 Company's corporate headquarters and Corporate Brand Support Centre is located in San Diego, California, U.S.A, and they have offices throughout the world to support their brands.

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**GOODRIDGE**





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